

508TH WILL MEET AT AAW FORT BRAGG



DEVILS



DIGEST



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508TH AIRBORNE CHAPTER WILL MEET AT ALL AMERICAN WEEK

The 508th Airborne Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association will meet during All American Week, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. A breakfast will be served on Friday, 23 May at the host hotel, Holiday Inn Bordeaux, from 7:30 – 8:30, with a Chapter Meeting to follow. We need to nominate and elect Chapter Officers. The Chapter Chairman and Vice Chairman positions have not been filled. Current Chairman Frank Seif volunteered on a temporary basis to offer stability to the Chapter, but does not want to

keep the job. Our Quartermaster, Ken Glynn and Secretary Ken Hamill plan on attending All American Week. The meal will be offered free to all members. Chapter funds will pay for all members in attendance. You are encouraged to bring guests on a prepaid reservation basis. Call, write or e-mail the Chapter Secretary and inform him of your intent to be at All American Week and attend the planned meal and meeting. Please notify him of the number of guests you will bring. AAW schedule and registration forms are in the Winter Paraglide and our website.



ARMY MILITARY HISTORY INSTITUTE

By Ken Hamill

The U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center & Military History Institute is located at Carlisle, PA and can be seen on the west side of Interstate 81, just north of the High Street/York Road exits (48 & 49) in Carlisle. I visited the USAMHI last May. The guard checked my ID, had me fill out a form and then issued me a visitor's pass. A nice guy and technical information specialist by the name of Rich Baker briefed me, had me register and asked what I would like to see first. I explained my connection to the 508th Airborne. He soon gave me a working bibliography of Military History Institute sources, much like the one provided earlier by the 82nd Museum Director. Rich Baker discussed the items listed on the bibliography with me and went to some shelves to select some of the listed texts. Everything was in its proper place. Patrons do not search for items or return items to storage. Patrons fill out an AHEC Call-Slip listing each item desired, books, photos, soldier letters, etc. and the items are obtained and provided. Notes are made in pencil and items are left at your workplace for the professionals to return to

storage. A camera stand was suggested for my digital camera and they made that happen. No flash allowed – bad for the stored items. I took about 20 shots of a book displaying historical military patches. Each page usually contained 42 patches in color. The Second Airborne Infantry Brigade patch was there and photographed. While shooting the book and other documents, a distinguished gentleman visited my table to chat and make suggestions. Dr. Conrad Crane was the Director of the Institute and a nice guy. See **Institute** page 2.



U.S. Army Military History Institute and Heritage Museum. Carlisle Barracks, PA



Ridgway Hall is the home of the Heritage Center

Institute Continued: He suggested that I look through the collection donated by MG Lindquist, the first Commander of the 508th PIR, retired and now deceased. I filled out the proper form and soon a nice lady delivered several items on a library cart. I looked through each container and each envelope and took photos of those pictures, items and documents that I wanted. I was allowed to return the Lindquist library cart to the nice lady at the desk. I had seen and learned a lot that day. The Military History Institute was a pleasant place to visit and very well managed. I had submitted a request for information by mail prior to my visit. That request brought three items by mail to me. The appropriate pages of "Infantry Regiments of the US Army", "Order of Battle, US Army, World War II" and "History of the 508th Parachute Infantry" by William Lord. Those items were free of charge and the cover letter was informative and signed by Ed Boggs of the MHI Staff. Our prior Chairman Jack Damron had 508th photos stolen at a reunion. Those photos will probably be trashed when that crook expires. Our 508th Historical Collection should be donated to the Army Military History Institute. That way, anybody can photograph and study the 508th collection and our heritage will be preserved for future generations. AHEC is a public facility and welcomes visitors and researchers. No appointment is necessary. Its mailing address is: 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5021. Its web page address is:

<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec> the homepage contains links for submitting historical inquiries and for offering to donate historical material.

82nd Museum Director Assistance

By Ken Hamill

A request for information about 508th history sent to members and friends of our Chapter who had e-mail service got good results. Manny De Jesus, Executive Director of the 82nd Airborne Division Association responded to my request with an address and the suggestion that I contact the 82nd Airborne Division Museum Director. My questions about the 508th were answered the following day. LTC John W. Aarsen, Commander of the 360th AG Battalion and Director of the 82nd Museum sent a list of material to read; 9 books, unit lineage & honors and general history pertaining to our regiment in WWII and one book about 1-508th with the Golden Brigade in Vietnam from the US Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania and a graphic depicting the Second Airborne Infantry Brigade patch worn by early 508th paratroopers. One of these books "Jump Into Darkness" was written by chapter life member Tom Porcella. A lovely librarian at the Infantry School, Fort Benning said she could attempt to obtain these reference materials on a loan basis from Carlisle. The Second Airborne Infantry Brigade patch graphic sent to our five WWII Chapter members with e-mail did not stir up strong memories of our guys having worn the patch.



2nd Airborne Infantry Brigade Patch belonged to the 508 and 507 Parachute Infantry Regiments?

Chris Matthews of Soquel, California sent a future "Memories of a Paratrooper" article based on his time with A Co, 3rd Bn, 508th, Fort Kobbe, Panama Canal Zone, 1966-1968. Thank you Chris. I will find time to edit and retype your interesting story.

HISTORICAL DONATIONS ITEM #6

These historical items were safe-guarded and donated by Jack Damron. Some came from MG Pearson by way of Richard George. The sixth items I'll describe are old newspapers from WWII. There are various papers, pages and sections that include photos and stories of the battles. We hold several parts of the Baltimore Sun issues 6 December 1942, 6 December 1943 and 6 & 8 June 1944. We have part of the Santa Cruz Sentinel 14 September 1944. We have part of the Northern Whig and Belfast Post 18 November 1944. There are four pages to each Stars and Stripes of the February 2, April 6, 15 & 17 of 1945 issues. Portions of the San Francisco Examiner May 6 & 9. There is a large All American Paraglide undated Berlin Edition. We have two smaller laminated copies of the Paraglide dated September 17 and October 17 of 1944. These fragile items are currently stored in two large plastic bags similar to freezer bags on top of my dining room cabinet. Several newspapers are turning brown and becoming brittle. These newspapers should be donated to the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center & Military History Institute Carlisle, PA. Paper historical documents need to be stored in a climate controlled holding area. I will deliver the newspapers displayed below to the U.S. Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks if the membership agrees.



508th Historical Documents Include the World War II Newspapers displayed above. Airborne!



QM Ken Glynn pays \$10.00 per under arm style T shirt above including printing and sends them to our 508 PIR troops in Afghanistan. Hats off to Ken for stretching our donated dollars.

Edward Geilfuss sent an order for some shirts and included \$100 for the troopers in Afghanistan. Ken Glynn notified us.

The November 2007 Devils Digest article pertaining to Dr. Jim Jackson's auction in Clarksville recognized the known donors, buyers and volunteers. We did not know the name of the \$100 donor at the auction. Thank you Jim Lammle for identifying that donor. Hats off to Trooper **Jack Harkins** ex member of Medical Company, 508 ARCT for donating \$100 for our Troopers in Afghanistan. Airborne!



WWII HELMET FOUND

I received the following on 7 December: "Hello from Brussels, I am military collector". "I found 1 US WWII paratroopers helmet with serial number". "I would like to identify the owner". "Name", "location""Could you help"? "Here is the info I have": Unit: **508 PIR (HQHQ508)** Found: **Picauville** France s/n: **H6904** or **A6904** (difficult to read) **Franck Gendebien** OR8 BEAR Can our WWII Veterans assist Franck? Was unit equipment marked with the first letter of the soldiers last name and last four of his Serial # ?

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
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TAPS - 508th PARATROOPERS RECENTLY DECEASED

- David R. Burkman, All American Member, Lancaster, California, A Co, 3rd Bn 68-69, 2 Jun 2007
 - David Burns, Chapter Vice Chairman & AA Member, Livonia, Michigan, H Co. 51-54, 22 Nov 2007
 - Henry E. Casey, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, 598 Eng Co. 47-49, 9 Nov 2007
 - Donald E. Kopp, Wisconsin, 598 Eng Co. 51-53, 3 Oct 2007
 - Carl Lackey, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Support Co. 54-56, 22 Dec 2007
 - James P. McNally, Ohio, ARCT 46-49 6 Oct 2007
 - Frederick L. Rapp, All American Member, Cincinnati, Ohio, B Co. 55-56, 27 Jan 2008
 - Ted R. Thompson, Annual Member, Flatwoods, Kentucky, A Co. 51-54, 29 Nov 2007
- Note: The Chapter received a thank you note from family friend Mark S. Jones for our sympathy card to Dave Burns

NEW MEMBERS

Donald R. Johnson, Auburn, Washington, A Co. 3-508 Fort Kobbe, Panama CZ, 62-65

NEW ALL AMERICAN MEMBERS

H. Vince Kimberland, McDonald, PA, C Co. 1-508 74-79

Our 508th Airborne Chapter recently donated \$100.00 to the 82nd Airborne Division Association Global War On Terrorism Memorial Monument!

Annual and Affiliate Members with expired memberships are urged to send their dues to our Treasurer, PO Box 1462, Sun City, AZ 85372-1462. Why stay an annual member? All American Membership will cost \$100.00 if you are 50 years of age or older. All American Membership is good for life in the 508th Airborne Chapter and the 82nd Airborne Division Association. Membership Application on page 8.



Statistics

All American Life Members.....	312
3 less than last year	
Annual Members.....	31
93 less than last year	
Affiliate Members.....	11
4 Less than last year	

CHAPTER ASSISTANCE TO OUR TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

Chapter Treasurer Frank Seif reports the following membership donations and transactions pertaining to assistance for our Red Devils in Afghanistan. To date, \$1438.00 has been donated by our members. Dr. Jim Jackson's auction in Clarksville generated \$2148.00. The 508th Chapter Treasury has donated \$3852.00. So far a total of \$7438.00 has been sent to Ken Glynn for distribution to our troops. Donors please make checks payable to "508th Airborne Chapter" and annotate your check memo line "4th BCT Paratroopers". Donations should be directed to the Chapter Treasurer Frank Seif, PO Box 1462, Sun City AZ 85372-1462.

Chapter Quartermaster Ken Glynn continues sending packages to the 508th PIR / 4th BCT and keeps us informed as follows: The only replies I have received are from the Chaplains and a First SGT, This week I received an address of one of the troopers who attended the convention and will send some to him. We have been sending salsa, hot sauce, canned fruit, summer sausage, cracker snacks, DVD's, under armor shirts, commercial t's with the 82d printed on them, 82d flags, candy, Christmas lights, magazines for the ladies, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, clear nail polish, skin cream, soap, hand cream, cough syrup censored just a little for the holidays. The under armor shirts I get are well under the retail price and screen printed. I ask in the self addressed letter what they want and can use but there has been no real requests, just send more of the same. KG

Hey how you doing sir, I just received the box you sent. I can't thank you enough for the care package you sent me. IT WAS AWESOME!!! Best care package ever and it came at a very good time because I was having a very bad day so it cheered me up a lot. Well I attached a roster of some Soldiers in my company. On the roster, I only got PVT (E-1) thru SGT (E-5) because I believe they need it more than the higher ranking people. I want to say thanks again sir and let me know if you got the roster. I really appreciate the support you and your chapter are doing for us...Talk to you soon. "Sent roster of names 78 people E-1 thru E-5.

We have been sending to SSG AB met him at the convention in 06 when I found out he deployed sent him a box and now have some names to send boxes to. Hi AB I received the roster Ken

Hey how are you doing Sir. I want to let you

know that I've received the care package, the other day. I gave out the 2 boxes that were labeled "FOR FEMALE" and kept the other box that was addressed to me.

A 17 December 2007 letter from 4th BCT, 508th PIR, FOB Salerno APO 09314, Office of the Brigade Chaplain was sent to Ken Glynn. Chaplain Pundt stated among other things – Sorry for your void of commo, that's frustrating. We have been receiving your regular packages. At this point we have received 3,000 care packages from all manner of sources. That weekend I personally received 59 packages on one day. That doesn't include nine other team members who regularly receive such incredible support. For some reason I have not been able to send emails to "rr.com" and "Comcast" addresses. Thanks for not forgetting about us. All the way! Chaplain Pundt also sent Ken Glynn his colorful two page, Issue 11, January 2008, newsletter called Larry's Lines. It included his personal update, a prayer warriors list of who and what to pray for, thank you to all who sent care packages, photos of his Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and a Quote of the Month "Only 366 days til Christmas".

To: Pundt, Allen L USA MAJ USA HHC 4 BCT
Good Day Sir I thought we had lost contact but received Larry's Lines for the first time I could download it. Christmas is never the same when troops are in harms way. Have been sending boxes to Task Force Fury members and received a card from Chaplain Fischer so I know the boxes are getting there. KG

Ken! I just sent you another letter saying that I can't email to "rr.com" (among others). Who can explain Army email servers. I received a letter from you yesterday and, Yes!, we have been receiving packages.

Ken Glynn reported receiving the following message from Chaplain Pinkie Fischer of the 782nd BSB, 82nd Abn Div "Merry Christmas Mrs. Glynn and thank you for your support". "God bless you and your entire Chapter". Ch (CPT) Pinkie Fischer, Salerno, Afghanistan.

Hi AB Another box on the way has some goodies for you. KG

How you doing Sir...I totally forgot to thank you for the last package that I got on New Years Day. It came at the right time. I'll let you know as soon as I get it. Thanks again Sir. I only got 10 more weeks to go, thats a great feeling. talk to u later.ab *Editors Note: E-mail to Afghanistan continues to be very difficult to accomplish.*

MEMORIES OF A PARATROOPER

By Tom Flynn

The Fort McClellan article reminded me that the 508th ARCT transfer from Ft Benning, Ga. to Ft Campbell, Ky. in ~ Feb '54 was a 2 day journey via deuce and a half, each with attached trailer. We bivouacked overnight in some type warehouse at Ft McClellan. We must have eaten at Ft McClellan and used their mess halls etc, but I don't recall that part. Based on the article, who knows what crud was in the warehouses we slept in.

I do remember that it was a great trip in the back of the deuce and a half waving at the gals driving on the roads alongside us. Because of the trailers, the viewing angle was small and the gals just slid by quickly in the small viewing angle unless their car slowed to convoy speed, which many did. I recalled going thru Bristol Va. / Tenn. where they blew the air raid sirens as we passed thru.

I visited Bristol many times after during the 70's and 80's as our company - Raytheon - had a plant in Bristol, Tenn. Bristol is also the home of the Bristol International Speedway.

Also reminds me of a story on one of those business trips. The Bristol airport was called Tri-Cities after Bristol, Johnson City and Kingsport. A little old lady got off the plane, looked around astonished and said this isn't Tri Cities! The airline gentleman at the foot of the aircraft stairs said ~ Oh yes it is. It turned out she was flying to Tri-Cities Airport in Minnesota (!), I think it was - but definitely not this Tri-Cities. Somehow or other she got routed to the wrong airport. (So when we wonder about lost luggage, just remember her - they "lost" her). The gentleman asked her to come into the terminal so they could straighten it out.

Last, but not least, on the transfer from Ft Benning to Ft Campbell, I remember you better check the wire on the farm fences when you stop the convoy by the side of the road for latrine time - it might be live! A few fellow 508thers found out when their "aim" engaged the wire and "it sparked back"! As I remember, it was the sudden surprise - not any real damage. Regards & Happy New Year. Tom Flynn

VETERAN CHARITIES UPDATE 04

RAO BULLETIN 15 DEC 2007

The American Institute of Philanthropy (AIP), a leading charity watchdog, issued a report card this month for 29 veterans and military charities. Letter grades were based largely on the charities' fundraising costs and the percentage of money raised that was spent on charitable activities. Following is an alphabetical summary of charities and grade assigned:

Air Force Aid Society (A+)
American Ex-Prisoners of War Service Foundation(F)
American Veterans Coalition (F)
American Veterans Relief Foundation (F)
AMVETS National Service Foundation (F)
Armed Services YMCA of the USA (A-)
Army Emergency Relief (A+)
Blinded Veterans Association (D)
Disabled American Veterans (D)
Disabled Veterans Association (F)
Fisher House Foundation (A+)
Freedom Alliance (F)
Help Hospitalized Veterans/Coalition to Salute America's Heroes (F)
Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund (A+)
Military Order of the Purple Heart Svc Foundation (F)
National Military Family Association (A)
National Veterans Services Fund (F)
National Vietnam Veterans Committee (D)
Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (A+)
NCOA National Defense Foundation (F)
Paralyzed Veterans of America (F)
Soldiers' Angels (D)
United Spinal Assn's Wounded Warrior Project (D)
USO (United Service Organization) (C+)
Veterans of Foreign Wars and foundation (C-)
Veterans of the Vietnam War & the Veterans Coalition (D)
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (D)
VietNow National Headquarters (F)
World War II Veterans Committee (D)
[Source: FDVA News Clips 13 Dec 07 ++]

Please Send your Change of Address to Chapter or National. Movers and Snow Birds are reminded that the next Paraglide will be mailed out on April 15, 2008. The mailing diskette used to address the Paraglide is dispatched to the printer no less than five days prior to the mailing date published. Each undelivered Paraglide costs our Association 75 cents.

Name: _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Quartermaster Sales Form----(Members Only)

Complete this form and mail your check payable to Kenneth Glynn along with your name and address in the box above to: Ken Glynn, 836 Glendale St., Lakeland, FL. 33803-4122

Please include shipping and handling charges in the amount column to the right of each item ordered.

ITEM/DESCRIPTION	QTY	SIZE (CIRCLE)	COST	SHIPPING/HANDLING	AMOUNT
Hat, White, Maroon Bill, Chap Logo, Embroidered		One Size Fits All	\$14.50	\$1.50 Each	
Hat, White, Maroon Bill, Chap Logo, Screened		One Size Fits All	\$12.00	\$1.50 Each	
Sweatshirt, Grey, Chapter Logo, Screened		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$22.00	\$3.50 + \$2 Each Additional	
Sweatshirt, White, Chapter Logo, Screened		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$22.00	\$3.50 + \$2 Each Additional	
Shirt, T, White, Chapter Logo, Screened		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$12.00	\$2.00 Each	
Shirt, Polo, Abn Maroon, Chap Logo Embroidered		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$22.00	\$3.50 + \$1.00 Each Additional	
Patch, 508th Abn Chapter (See 1, Below)			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Patch, 508th ARCT (See 1, Below)			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Patch, Para Red Devil (See 1, Below)			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Patch, 320th Abn FA Bn.			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Pin, 508th ARCT			\$3.00	No Charge	
Pin, Para Red Devil			\$3.00	No Charge	
*= Add an additional \$2.00 for each X above XL (XXXL size is a special order) 1= All patches can be purchased 3 for \$15.00 + Shipping and Handling. PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY					TOTAL \$

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Frank Seif copied me the 2007 Chapter Financial Statement he submitted to National in early January, four months prior to the required submission date I might add. On 31 December 2006 our Net Worth was - \$11876.57. Our 2007 Income included dues \$4558; interest \$374.85; auction \$2148; sales \$595; and donations \$925 totaling \$8600.85. Our 2007 Disbursements included dues \$2290; admin \$1291.39; donations 508 PIR Afghanistan \$7438.00; and Convention Ad \$60 totaling \$11079.39. Our 31 December 2007 Net Worth stood at \$9398.03. Hats off to our CPA Treasurer and Chairman Frank Seif. Airborne!

**DD-214's ARE NOW ONLINE
 Provided By Russell Lux**

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/> This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy

of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time. The Chapter Secretary checked this out. I went to the website and requested my first hitch USMC DD 214. The site made a form available that I printed out. The form requires my signature & date and then can be sent via Mail or Fax. Simple and Painless.



Ken Hamill, Secretary
 508 Airborne Chapter
 2207 Coventry Drive
 Columbus, GA 31904-5034



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT)

508th Airborne Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Association

All American Renewal New Member Reinstatement

Enclosed \$15.00 for my annual dues for the year _____ which includes Paraglide subscription.

Name: _____ Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Last Rank Held: _____ Serial Number: _____

508th Unit (Fill In) Company: _____ Battery: _____ Battalion: _____

Major Unit (Select One) 2nd Abn Inf Bde: _____ 82nd Abn Div: _____ 508th ARCT: _____

193rd Inf Bde: _____ Golden Bde: _____ SETAF: _____ 173rd Abn Bde: _____

Dates of 508th Service: From: Month: _____ Year: _____ To: Month: _____ Year: _____

Present Spouse's # of
 Occupation: _____ Single: _____ Married: _____ Name: _____ Children: _____

PLEASE MAIL TO: 508th Airborne Chapter, P. O. Box 1462, Sun City, AZ 85372-1462

National Association requires rank, serial number and copy of DD214 or orders indicating the award of the Parachutist Badge from initial applicants.

*** \$8 Affiliate Members Only: I am presently a member of the _____ Chapter

I do / do not want to transfer to the 508 Chapter. Signature: _____